

Proclamation
International Underground Railroad Month
September 2020

Whereas, in recognition of West Des Moines as a powerful destination for authentic Underground Railroad history and in commemoration of all those involved in the Underground Railroad, including West Des Moines' courageous abolitionists, including James C. Jordan and wives Cynthia and Melinda Jordan, as well as James B. Huston and wife Nancy Hill Huston.

Whereas, in appreciation of the inspiring efforts of the people of West Des Moines who have committed themselves to document, share, and learn about the Underground Railroad through the Jordan House Museum and Huston Cemetery; and

Whereas, the West Des Moines Historical Society acknowledges the significance of the Underground Railroad, and all those involved, for its contribution to the eradication of slavery in the United States and as a cornerstone for a more comprehensive civil rights movement that followed.

Whereas, International Underground Railroad Month provides an opportunity for world-wide open dialogue that illuminates the hopes that arise from freedom for all people.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Steven K. Gaer, Mayor of the City of West Des Moines, Iowa, do hereby proclaim September 1-30, 2020, as International Underground Railroad Month in West Des Moines and do commend this observance to all West Des Moines citizens.

Signed this 8th day of September, 2020.

ATTEST:

Steven K. Gaer, Mayor

Ryan T. Jacobson, City Clerk